

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2011***

Present: Selectmen: Rosanne Gilbert, Michael Woodworth, and Wes Moore. Others present included: Mark Gosselin, Mike Todd, Jackie Horgan, Jared Rumford, Clay Mitchell, Jon Spencer, Art Reed, Tom Morgan, Kathy Bailey, Jeff Buxton, and Sue McKinnon

Call to order: 5:04pm by Chairman Gilbert

Wes Moore explained that the members of the Police Department Facilities Expansion Project Committee worked for six months or so. They started out by touring a couple of police department facilities and Jim Daley's building. They have worked for six months. In the end, they found that the original target price of \$250,000. was unrealistic given the needs of the Police Department.

Mike Todd spoke about the process starting with a set dollar amount in mind. After looking into other small police department facilities, other considerations have to be taken. The total space needed and the security needs are important items to keep in mind. Mike wants the project done right and done well. The (majority) committee members feel that 4,000 square feet (including two garages) will be sufficient. More time is needed to obtain hard numbers for construction. A lot of work can be done ahead of time at no cost to the Town. Mike suggested a Warrant Article on the 2011 ballot for an expendable trust fund to obtain building plans and renderings.

A commitment was made to have a professional police department and that department now needs a professional facility. It was suggested that the video produced by Town Planner Clay Mitchell be put on the Town's website for viewing by the townspeople.

Wes made a motion for a Warrant Article to raise \$25,000. for an Expendable Trust Fund for a future police department facility. Rosanne seconded the motion. Michael Woodworth feels that the Town should wait two years when one of the bonds will be paid off. A vote was taken and the motion passed with all in favor.

The Board of Selectmen thanked the committee members for their hard work. The members agreed to remain active.

The Deliberative Session dates were given and all are encouraged to attend

Wes made a motion to renew the Town Planner's contract for 2011. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor. It was noted that the contract price is less than last year.

Sunday, January 30th a potluck dinner will be held at the Town Hall between 4pm and 6pm for Town employees and volunteers.

Jeff Buxton spoke about the Selectmen asking for a flat 2011 budget last September. He has heard that some department budgets will be increasing and expressed his displeasure. The Fire Department is working hard to keep their budget level and he feels that all departments should do the same. The Selectmen explained that they increased the Police Department budget last year in order to prevent an officer from leaving. One officer had already left the department. There is also a contractual increase in the police budget.

There will be higher co-pays on the health insurance along with a higher deductible in order to avoid a huge increase in costs to the Town.

Jeff asked for a heads up for the time the electric lights will be changed out at the Fire Department.

Wes made a motion to fund the 2011 police department budget at the 2010 level. There was no second. Michael made a motion to fund the 2011 police department budget at \$294,366. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with Michael and Rosanne in favor and Wes against.

The Board is meeting with Rockingham County Dispatch on Thursday at 2pm. Chiefs Reed and Buxton are invited to attend. Chief Reed stated that the police will need new equipment if dispatch changes from Newmarket to Rockingham. Stratham will be moving to Rockingham Dispatch effective February 1, 2011.

The generator bids were received and reviewed. The Town needs to raise just half of the cost as the state will pay the other half. Wes made a motion for a Warrant Article to install a 20 watt generator at the Town Hall at a cost to the Town of \$7,500. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor. Michael will draft the Warrant Article.

The final vote on the 2011 budget will take place at 5:30pm on January 11th, 2011.

Effective July 1st, 2011, for one year, if an **employee** is admitted to the hospital, the Town will pay \$500. **one time** for an in-hospital stay towards the deductible. This will not be paid on any family members.

Wes made a motion for a Warrant Article to expend monies from the Newfields Library Expendable Trust Fund for a library expansion. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor. Wes will draft the Warrant Article.

Wes made a motion for a Warrant Article for a \$25,000. bond to fund the Newfields Energy Commission's PACE program. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor. Clay will draft the Warrant Article.

Wes made motion for a Warrant Article for Arbovirus Surveillance and Larviciding (mosquito) in the amount of \$32,000. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with two in favor and one against.

Wes made a motion for a Warrant Article for Adulticiding (mosquito) in the amount of \$17,000. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Wes made a motion to reduce the Selectmen's salary from \$2,000. to \$1,500. in 2011. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with two in favor and one against.

Wes made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2010 meeting as written. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

The following items were signed:

- checks
- mosquito control application
- Assessor's contract
- Timber Tax Levy
- Office of Energy and Planning Audit
- Revolution Energy, LLC contract

The meeting went into a non-public session at 8:00pm per RSA 91-A:II for a personnel matter. The meeting remained in a non-public session per RSA 91-A:III for a legal matter.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer
Administrative Assistant